RCE # 3100
BOX RCE #//

0445-0271P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Masahito TANAKA et al.

Conf.:

2395

Appl. No.:

09/147,894

Group:

RECEIVED

Filed:

March 23, 1999

Examiner:

JUL 17 2002

For:

ABSORBENT ARTICLE

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

BOX RCE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

July 11, 2002

Sir:

This is a "Request for Continued Examination" under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, the provisions of which do not apply to:

(1) A provisional application; (2) An application for a utility or plant patent filed under 35 U.S.C. 111(a) before June 8, 1995; (3) An international application filed under 35 U.S.C. §363 before June 8, 1995; (4) An application for a design patent; or (5) A patent under reexamination.

Submission of an RCE is limited to an application in which prosecution is closed; e.g. final rejection, Ex Parte 07/12/2002 CNGUYEN 00000042 09147894 notice of allowability

01 FC:115 02 FC:179

110.00 OP 740.00 OP

- This Request for Continued Examination is being filed prior \boxtimes to the earliest of:
 - (1) Payment of the issue fee, unless a petition under § 1.313 is granted; (2) Abandonment of the application; or (3) The filing of a notice of appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit under 35 U.S.C. § 141, or the commencement of civil action under 35 U.S.C. §§ 145 or 146, unless the appeal or civil action is terminated.
- transmitted via the The enclosed document is being Certificate of Mailing provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.8.
- П The enclosed document is being transmitted via facsimile.

Submission Required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114:

Enter as part of the present submission:

- An After Final Amendment previously filed on June 13, 2002, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 but unentered, in the present application.
- Arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on .
- A Reply Under Rule 1.111, attached hereto. Claim fee(s) are calculated as set forth below:

	TOTAL NUMBER OF CLAIMS	TOTAL NUMBER OF CLAIMS	NUMBER EXTRA	Large Entity		Small Entity	
	PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	BEING FILED HEREWITH		Rate	Fee	Rate	Fee
Total Claims	20	19		X 18	\$	х 9	\$
Independent Claims	3	3		X 84	\$	X 42	\$
			TOTAL C	LAIM F	EE(S)	\$	0.00

An Infor	rmation	Disclosure	Statemen	t (IDS)	and PTO-1449
form(s)	is/are	attached	hereto	for th	e Examiner's
consider	ration.				

□ Other:

<u>Miscellaneous</u>

Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of () months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months.)

The required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed, is enclosed herewith:

- \$370.00 small entity

Appl. No. 09/147,894

	The applicant(s) hereby petition(s) for an extension of one (1) month(s) pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a). The fee has been calculated as shown below:
	NO extensions of time have been previously obtained in the prior application. Thus, a fee of \$110.00 is required for the full period of the above-requested extension of time.
	An extension of () month(s) was previously requested and paid for on in the instant application. Thus, a fee of \$0.00 is required to obtain an additional () month(s) extension.
	The fee of \$130.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) for suspension of action is enclosed.
\boxtimes	Enclosed is(are) check(s) in the total amount of \$850.00 for the applicable filing fee, additional claims fee, suspension fee, and/or extension fees.
П	Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2448 in the amount of

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

\$0.00. A triplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

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43,368

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Attachments

PCL

JWB/PCL/abs

0445-0271P

(Rev. 04/05/02)